

LEADER

The Air Force ROTC Information Source

September 1999



**BACK TO
SCHOOL
BLUES**



Courtesy photo

Cadets from the Army and Navy ROTC programs at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Det. 370, and the College of the Holy Cross formed part of a tri-service color guard for ROTC Appreciation Day.

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Leader submissions should arrive at Air University Public Affairs by the first of the month prior to the month being published. Photos must be mailed to: 55 LeMay Plaza Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6334. For more information, call (334) 953-2827 or DSN 493-2827.

**Cover photo by
Staff Sgt.**

Madelyn Alvarez

Cadet Jason Freels, Det. 5, Auburn University, prepares to lead as wing commander for the upcoming semester.

**Leader
computer designs
by Trey Ward**



Cadet Trimble Bailey, left, receives her commissioning oath from Maj. Gen. Susan Pamerleau.

Break Through!

Courtesy photo

First Air Force officer graduates from Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership

On the morning of May 22, Cadet Trimble L. Bailey Det. 880, Virginia Military Institute, took the commissioning oath to become the first Air Force officer to graduate from the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership.

Maj. Gen. Susan L. Pamerleau, Director for Personnel Force Management at the Pentagon, highlighted the historic nature of the occasion by presiding over Bailey's ceremony and addressing attendees. Pamerleau's presence was particularly appropriate because as the former commandant of Air Force ROTC, she was instrumental in opening Air Force commissioning opportunities to VWIL cadets. In 1995, Pamerleau helped establish the cross-town agreement to allow VWIL cadets to take Air Force ROTC courses.

Located at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Va., the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership was founded in

August 1995 as an alternative to the all-male Virginia Military Institute. (The Supreme Court has since challenged VMI's male-only admissions policy, and women are now attending the school.) VWIL is the only all-female, collegiate leadership program in the nation.

Despite the change in VMI's admissions policy, the VWIL program at Mary Baldwin College has continued to thrive. In the fall of 1995, 42 young women enrolled in the program. Since that time, between 40 and 45 women have continued to matriculate each fall because of the school's unique combination of academic, military and physical rigor. In addition to completing these requirements at Mary Baldwin College, Det. 880 at VMI provides VWIL cadets with military leadership training.

The VWIL lifestyle requires physical and mental fitness, discipline and teamwork. VWIL cadets test their abilities early as freshmen during their participation in Wilderness Adventure, a four-day, outdoor challenge designed to promote self-confidence and trust among peers. Like Air Force ROTC, the VWIL program trains leaders in a demanding environment where honor, integrity and excellence are governing standards. "In many ways," Bailey said, "VWIL takes what innate characteristics the cadet has and builds them to help her develop her own style of leadership."

Women join the VWIL program for a variety of reasons. Many, like Bailey, join to be challenged and because they wish to pursue a commission in the U.S. Armed Forces. "I came into VWIL knowing that I wanted to go AFROTC," Bailey said. "VWIL was a brand-new program at the time and seemed like a real challenge. I was willing to take the risk with a new program like VWIL because of the promise it held."

Bailey headed the VWIL corps of cadets, first as the VWIL sergeant major in 1996 and as the VWIL corps commander from 1997-1999. "VWIL is a corps unlike any other," Bailey said in describing the uniqueness of the VWIL program. "Females who apply to VWIL already have characteristics about them that draw them to be leaders in their community. They are strong, determined young women who understand commitment and have a heart for their dreams."

During her college career, Bailey followed her dreams with a passion. Determined to become flight surgeon in the Air Force, she excelled in all areas of the VWIL and Air Force ROTC programs. She now shares her talent in the active duty Air Force. "As an Air Force officer, even as a lieutenant, you are looked up to by your airmen and constantly evaluated by higher officers," Bailey said. "I have learned that my lifestyle reflects who I am, and the true test of integrity really is when no one else is looking."

By Capt. Monique Minnick
Virginia Military Institute
Det. 880

Who's the *boss*?

New commander takes charge at AFOATS

Headquarters Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at Maxwell AFB, Ala., has a new commander.

Brig. Gen. John Spiegel succeeds Brig. Gen. Buster Ellis, who is now deputy commander of the Fifth Allied Tactical Air Force, Allied Air Forces Southern Europe, NATO in Vicenza, Italy.

Spiegel has served in several capacities in the audiovisual career field, including motion picture and television production officer at combat camera locations in California and Hawaii, and commander of several audiovisual squadrons and a photographic detachment.

Additionally, he was the senior military assistant to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness at the Pentagon and a member of the Air Force chief of staff's operations group. Prior to coming to AFOATS, Spiegel commanded



the 81st Training Wing at Keesler AFB, Miss.

The general earned his bachelor's degree in business administration at East Texas State University, followed by a master's degree in journalism. He is a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Airlift Operation School, the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Air Command and Staff College, Naval War College and Air War College. During his 28 years of service, Spiegel has earned the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters,

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

By Staff Sgt. Madelyn Alvarez
Air University Public Affairs

Hazing: Rites of passage revoked

Several cadets escorted lower-ranking cadets to a park and instructed them to crawl through an area filled with fire ants and briars and perform different types of exercises. Because this activity did not fall into the guidelines of the university for physical training, it was regarded as hazing.

According to 1st Lt. John Terra, Judge Advocate General office, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, rites of passage and initiation ceremonies have long been part of the profession of arms. "When used judiciously, they can build esprit de corps and strengthen unit cohesiveness," Terra said. "However, when these ceremonies evolve from harmless rituals to acts that do not respect the safety or dignity of the individual, they destroy values fundamental to our unit cohesion, mutual respect and mutual trust."

The Department of Defense policy defines hazing as "any conduct whereby a military member or members, regardless of service or rank, without proper authority causes another military member or members, regardless of service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to any ac-

Clearing up the *haze* **Hazing**

Hitting or striking
Tattooing
Branding
Shaving
"Blood pinning"
Forced alcohol consumption

Not hazing

Authorized training
Administrative or
corrective measures
Additional military instruction

tivity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning or harmful."

So far the Air Force has declined to incorporate the DOD policy into a regulation choosing to punish offenders under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Commanders have the option to begin with counseling and reprimands and extend to court martial for more serious cases, according to the Air Force Judge Advocate General School.

In ROTC the most common hazing ritual is unauthorized physical training. Cadets involved in these activities could face possible disenrollment from ROTC program. "Hazing demeans the dignity of the individual and has no place in the world's most respected and effective Air and Space Force," Terra said.

By Staff Sgt. Madelyn Alvarez
Air University Public Affairs

Making the *grade*

New Air Force lieutenants

| UNIT | NAME | | |
|------|-------------------------|------|------------------------|
| 005 | RITCHIE TIMOTHY J | 432A | BUBANAS CHAD T |
| 005 | SPICER MARCUS J | 432A | KELLY CHRISTOPHER |
| 005 | WRIGHT JAMEY L | 432A | MOSHER BRYAN J |
| 010 | BLANCHARD ADAM L | 440 | BIRD KRISTOPHER T |
| 010 | BOYKINS DWAYNE L | 440 | JOPLIN SAMUEL K |
| 012 | NEWELL JASON R | 450 | MASSEY DANIEL E |
| 012 | SHEPAN STEVEN G | 475 | CARTER DOUGLAS A |
| 012 | TRUETTE ANTHONY | 485 | RISHA GARY A |
| 015 | PHILLIPS ROOSEVELT | 505 | EYSTER MATTHEW D |
| 017 | THOMAS JOHN G | 510 | SWARTZMILLER JUSTIN |
| 019 | KINGSBERRY OFAYO V | 536 | HANNUM KELLY M |
| 025 | SANDERS PENNY L | 538 | MCCLAIN ERIN J |
| 028 | BURGESS BENJI M | 560 | BARTOO PHILIP A |
| 030 | ADCOCK NICHOLAS B | 595 | ALBAUGH JONATHAN |
| 055A | HAIGH DAVID A | 595 | STANFIELD CHRISTINE |
| 055A | MARQUEZ MARK A | 600 | SCOTT NATHAN L |
| 060A | PIGGOTT RUSSELL T | 605 | COLE LAWRENCE C |
| 060A | SHIRGUL WAIS J | 630A | SOCHIA KRISTINE J |
| 088 | YANG DANIEL Y | 643 | NORNG VIDET |
| 090 | FAUTH MATTHEW B | 643 | STEEL STACY N |
| 090 | GLENN NATALIE M | 650 | HOELLE ERIC J |
| 105 | ODAIR MICHAEL G JR | 675 | WAGNER MARIA J |
| 145 | DYKAS JAMES E | 730 | HASKER JASON M |
| 145 | PETWAY SHEMEKA A | 730 | WALVOORD LAURA GRACE |
| 150 | SPENCE MATTHEW J | 750 | HARDIN THOMAS C |
| 155 | LEE PAUL D | 750 | STEINER SHANE C |
| 159 | ACOSTA BRANDON J | 765 | DELLINGER MARK D |
| 159 | COLLINS GLEN D | 765 | DIBONAVENTURO FRANK |
| 159 | SHEPHARD JASON J | 765 | ERICKSON STEPHEN J |
| 160 | ROGERS PHILLIP M | 765 | MARSIGLIA II ANDREW C |
| 160 | WHITEHURST SCOTT B | 765 | PRISTAS KIRK J |
| 165 | ALEXANDER ALONZO | 765 | SCHLOSS JOHN B |
| 165 | OBEROI BIREN | 770 | HINDMAN WILLIAM A |
| 165 | SMITH BRIAN M | 770 | WOODS JOHN M |
| 165 | WADE ALAN R | 775 | FELDER KATRINA L |
| 172 | BENTLEY LAURA M | 790 | ROWLAND ANTONIO B |
| 172 | JORDAN KENDALL D | 790 | STROTHER TIANA E |
| 172 | PRINCE ERRICK J | 800 | DAVIS HARRY L |
| 172 | WESTON RODNEY E | 805 | ALCOVER MICHELLE M |
| 190 | WILLIAMS HARRIET R | 805 | ARMSTRONG PATRICK |
| 205 | KURTZ IAN J | 805 | DAY CHRISTOPHER A |
| 207 | CRAMER MATTHEW J | 805 | MARTINEZ RUDY |
| 207 | PAYNE KRISTOFFER L | 805 | PITMAN BEN L |
| 207 | WAHL TODD R | 810 | STUMP TABITHA L |
| 220 | EIGEL WILLIAM C | 810 | RICKARD BRANDI N |
| 270 | PINDROCK DOUGLAS A | 810 | SCHUH LEONA R |
| 310 | HENDERSON HOWARD J III | 820 | ABELL TREVOR D |
| 330 | CHRISTENSEN NEIL E | 820 | HAMMOND SCOTT M |
| 330 | JIMENEZ WILLIAM M | 820 | WEAKLEY JULIE M |
| 340 | ILANGANTILEKE RANJULA G | 825 | MORIN DANIEL P |
| 355 | BOOKER RICHARD D | 840 | MENDOZA FREDERICO R |
| 355 | CIBELLI FREDRIC J | 840 | PEREZ JEREMIAH D |
| 355 | ISKANDER KRISTINA | 842 | ENGLESON III KENNETH N |
| 390 | LEGLER SARA C | 842 | MCCLINTIC RICHARD E |
| 390 | REDLIN JASON E | 842 | POLK PHILLIP W |
| 410 | KESKE JASEN W | 842 | SMITH BRIAN D |
| 420 | GRONAU ZACHARY T | 847 | BEAGLE BREANNE |
| 420 | MOUNCE GEORGE D | 847 | JEWELL RONNIE E |
| 420 | UBER KRISTOPHER J | 855 | TAYLOR LELAND J |
| 425 | FODREY MARK W | 860 | KARREN WADE S |
| 430 | ADAMSON PAUL E | 860 | NUCKLES DAVID P |
| 430 | CLEMENTS WILLIAM | 880 | STEPHENS MATTHEW K |
| 430 | DEHENRE ONUTASE | 905 | BABBITT WILLIAM J |
| 432 | MATHEWS STEPHEN | 910 | BUCHANAN MARNIE E |
| | | 910 | COVEY BRIAN E |



Courtesy photos

President William J. Clinton, middle, poses with Norwich University cadets during the cadets recent trip to Washington, D.C.

Det. 867 cadets meet president, place wreath at Tomb of Unknown

Thirty-six cadets from Det 867, Norwich University, traveled to Washington, D.C., April 8-11 to visit local military institutions and participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They had no idea they would also have the good fortune to meet Commander-in-Chief President William J. Clinton.

The trip started with tours of Andrews Air Force Base, Md., including Air Force Two, the vice president's aircraft. As cadets were leaving, base operations informed them President Clinton would depart in a few minutes from Air Force One. Cadets lined up in front of base operations and waved when the president stepped off the helicopter to board Air Force One. To their surprise, the president noticed the group of uniformed cadets and spent a few moments speaking with them.

After greeting the president, cadets met 2nd Lt. James Young, a Norwich University alumnus, who, along with sev-

eral other junior officers, talked to cadets about their duties and the junior officers' perspective on life in the Air Force. After lunch, cadets toured the Pentagon.



Front to back and left to right, Cadets Ryan Hall, Anthony Sylvain, Saun Neal and Wayne Dirkes prepare to place a wreath before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

"This trip was a wonderful recruiting and retention tool," said Cadet Perry Vick. "How can you top having the cadets meet President Clinton?" The trip culminated with the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Va. Cadets Ryan Hall, Anthony Sylvain, Wayne Dirkes and Shaun Neal assisted members of the Old Guard in placing the wreath before the tomb while the remaining cadets stood in formation. "The ceremony was a powerful and emotional experience," Hall said.

By Maj. Robert Hunt
Det. 867
Norwich University

Pilot

Training

Alumnus returns to his
former detachment to
share his experiences at
Specialized
Undergraduate Pilot
Training



Official Air Force photo

Det. 685 alumnus 2nd Lt. Sean Sullivan returned to his former detachment to share his experiences at Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training recently. Oregon State University's newest crop of pilot candidates and other interested cadets gathered in MacAlexander Fieldhouse to get a firsthand account of the opportunities and challenges that await them.

Sullivan gave a detailed account of his pilot training experience, starting with his arrival at the gate of Laughlin Air Force Base near Del Rio, Texas, with just four hours of flying time in his logbook. He recounted the months of learning in the classroom and the cockpit, the hurdles he faced along the way, and his successful completion of each stage of the program. Sullivan ended with his graduation from T-38 training and opened the floor for questions.

The discussion that followed covered almost every aspect of pilot training. Several OSU cadets were due to leave for SUPT just a few months later, so they welcomed the opportunity to gain as much information as possible. Sullivan answered questions on subjects ranging from formation flying to house hunting in Del Rio to the numbers and types of assignments available to SUPT graduates.

New second lieutenants assigned to Laughlin AFB for pilot training can expect to see Sullivan again. He will be a T-37 instructor for the next three years. After his stint as an instructor pilot, he will move on to flying fighters.

By Cadet Brian Scott
Det. 685
Oregon State University

Flying high: ROTC recognizes future flyers

Two cadets were honored as the first to receive the Joseph J. Redden Award June 17 at the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Cadets Gary Marlowe of Air Force ROTC Det. 860, Utah State University; and Julius Rosmasanta of Det. 190, University of Ill., accepted the award for top pilot and navigator candidates in ROTC respectively.

The cadets qualified for the award by ranking number one in their fields, maintaining high grade point averages and scoring high on their physical fitness, basic attributes and Air Force Officer Qualifying tests.

"This is the highest honor I have received by far," said Marlowe, winner in the pilot category. "It motivates me to do my best. Being a pilot is something I have always dreamed of."

Rosmasanta said he was "very en-

thusiastic and grateful" for the recognition. "I couldn't believe it."

Although the cadets were not able to attend, the ceremony included an award presentation by Col. Wolf Gesch, Air Force ROTC commander, and a dedication speech by Lt. Gen. Joseph J. Redden, Air University commander.

"I am deeply honored and very touched," said Redden about having the award named after him. "I have been blessed by serving with good people throughout my career. I am going to come back and check this (plaque) on a regular basis."

By Ivory Patton
Air University Public Affairs



Photo by Lynn Davis
Lt. Gen. Joseph J. Redden, Air University commander, left, shows Col. Wolf Gesch, ROTC commander, the new award named in Redden's honor.

Air Force ROTC cadets lend a helping hand

Cadets from the University of Utah and Weber State University help local residents clean up after a flood

The future Air Force turned out to lend a helping hand to families who were literally wading through the mud July 13 after a canal broke near their homes.

Air Force ROTC cadets from the University of Utah and Weber State University showed up in the early morning hours, along with their active-duty counterparts and hundreds of volunteers, to assist Riverdale residents in the clean-up efforts.

"When we heard city officials were asking for volunteers to help clean up the disaster area, we were eager to help," said Cadet James Corrigan, a senior at Weber State. "We got on the phone and found out when and where they needed us, and that's where we went." While some of the cadets were already obligated to attend classes, those who were free that morning were eager to dig in.

Mud-encased cadets worked all morning helping the flood-stricken families clear out sheds, clean sidewalks and "move mud," said Corrigan. "Helping in our community is important to our corp."

The cadets were more than willing to lend a helping hand, said Cadet Matt Greenwood, a senior at the University of Utah. "One of our core values is 'service before self,'" he said. "Even though it didn't sound like a lot of fun, these people needed our help."

The clean-up efforts will continue for several weeks, and the cadets "will be there as often as we can to help," Corrigan said.

What the cadets gained from this experience goes beyond any material rewards. "The family we were helping was very thankful," said Greenwood. "It made me feel like we were really doing something worthwhile."

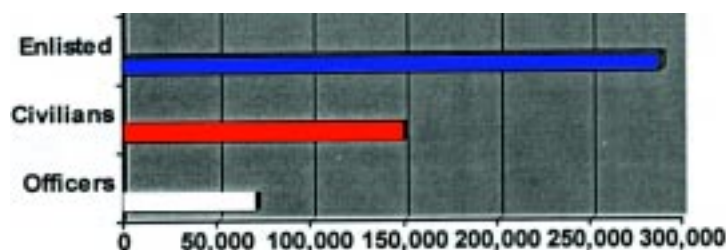
By Jennifer Jones
388th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Focusing on the force

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS - The Air Force Personnel Center recently published its quarterly reports on the active duty and civilian population of the Air Force.

The latest information is available at the center's World Wide Web page www.afpc.randolph.af.mil under the public affairs area.

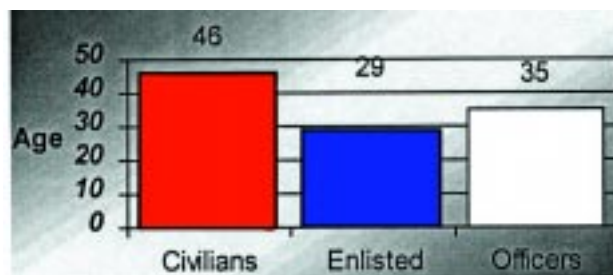
Combined Total Force



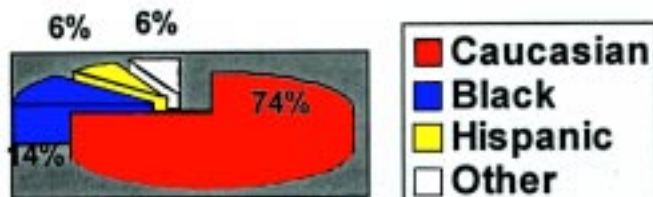
In the officer corps, 12,829 are pilots, 5,104 are navigators and 33,871 are non-rated officers, in the rank of lieutenant colonel and below.

Average Age of Force

Of the enlisted and officer force, 35 percent are below the age of 26. Average time of service is 11 years for officers, nine for enlisted and 17 for civil service.



Combined Total Force Ethnicity



Racial minority representation has risen from 14 percent in 1975 to 25 percent today.

KSU instructor recognized atop field

History was made recently at Kansas State University when Maj. Steve Dorfman, commandant of cadets, was selected as one of six recipients of the William L. Stanley Undergraduate Teaching Award from the College of Arts and Sciences.

One of 510 professors considered for the honor, Dorfman's accomplishments propelled him into the forefront and gained him this prestigious recognition. "This university teaching award was based on my abilities as a teacher and what I do to assist the university as an assistant professor, so I'm very honored to have been chosen," he said. For his excellence in teaching, he will be awarded \$500 at the College of Arts and Sciences Spring Commencement.

This is not the first time Dorfman has been recognized for his skill in teaching. In 1997, he was given the Lt. Col. Leo Codd Award for the best Air Force ROTC instructor. "Words could not describe how I felt when I received that honor," Dorfman said.

Dorfman serves as the faculty advisor to the Air Force ROTC cadet group. He also teaches the AERO 300 series courses and Introduction to Leadership Concepts course.

By Ivory Patton
Air University Public Affairs

Critical

Key to effective decision making is a commander's ability to think critically. More than any other responsibility, a commander's responsibility to make sound decisions and solve difficult problems determines success or failure in a position of command. In a commander's life, what may seem like common sense should be suspect. Likewise, first reactions are often times formulas for failure, generally quite unthinking, and often quite uncritical.

A critic or a critical thinker? There is a vast difference between a commander who is a critic and a commander who thinks critically. Being a critic is easy — and cheap. Critics take a part other people, ideas, issues and proposals — rarely offering solutions. The value of critical thinking, however, is evident in the word itself. The word critical comes from a Greek word “*krinein*” meaning to separate or to choose. Critical thinking therefore implies conscious, deliberate inquiry that can make or break a commander.

The right decision

Command success is largely based upon making good decisions — the right decisions at the right time. Yet, it is often

only by making bad or wrong decisions that we learn what the right decision was. Critical thinking processes help steer us on the course to success. The journey will still be difficult to navigate, but better to sail off the rocky shore by the light of day comfortable with a compass than in the dark of night armed with intuition.

How do we think

As early as 1910, John Dewey theorized about human thought processes in his work *How We Think*. He explained the process of human thought as a careful, step-by-step consideration of the problem. Since that time, there have been as many adaptations of how we think as there have been scholars to examine the topic. All however, have at their core five

steps originally conceived by Dewey in the early 1900's:

- Recognize the problem
- Locate and define the problem
- Suggest possible solutions
- Develop proposed solutions
- Explore alternative solutions then verify, accept or reject.

How to think critically

Critical thinking can be summed up in one phase: “To advance by means of destruction.” It is a process in which we build up and break down, seek and destroy, agree and argue. In thinking critically about an issue, we try to see the issue from all sides before reaching a conclusion. It is an internal process of

Thinking

and the commander

advancing then questioning options.

Shaping change

Opinions can change, positions can change, attitudes can change, even organizations can change under the leadership of commanders who have nurtured and matured the critical thinking skills of both themselves and their subordinates. Critical thinking requires:

- The ability to look forward and to look back; that is, it requires both imagination and reflection.
- The ability to support a position with confidence.
- A willingness to face objections to one's own beliefs, to question common sense and to question the obvious.
- Consideration of organizational interests about self-interests.

The ability to reframe, re-vision (literally, look again) and to envision the likely consequences of your position or action.

Check your thinking

What do you do when faced with a

difficult decision to make or problem to solve? More importantly, what do you not do? Your job is to check your thinking:

- Do I accept or question shared and underlying assumptions?
- Do I examine the quality of the evidence presented?
- Do I face or avoid opposing arguments?
- Do I seek or ignore counter positions and counter evidence?
- Do I reason, or do I rationalize?
- Do I accept assertions, or seek facts?
- Do I separate the relevant from the interesting?
- Do I separate the people from the problem?
- Can I separate what appeals to emotion, and what appeals to reason?
- Am I a decision maker? It is not enough to simply not make a decision.

It is a commander's responsibility to judge the adequacy of ideas, the merit

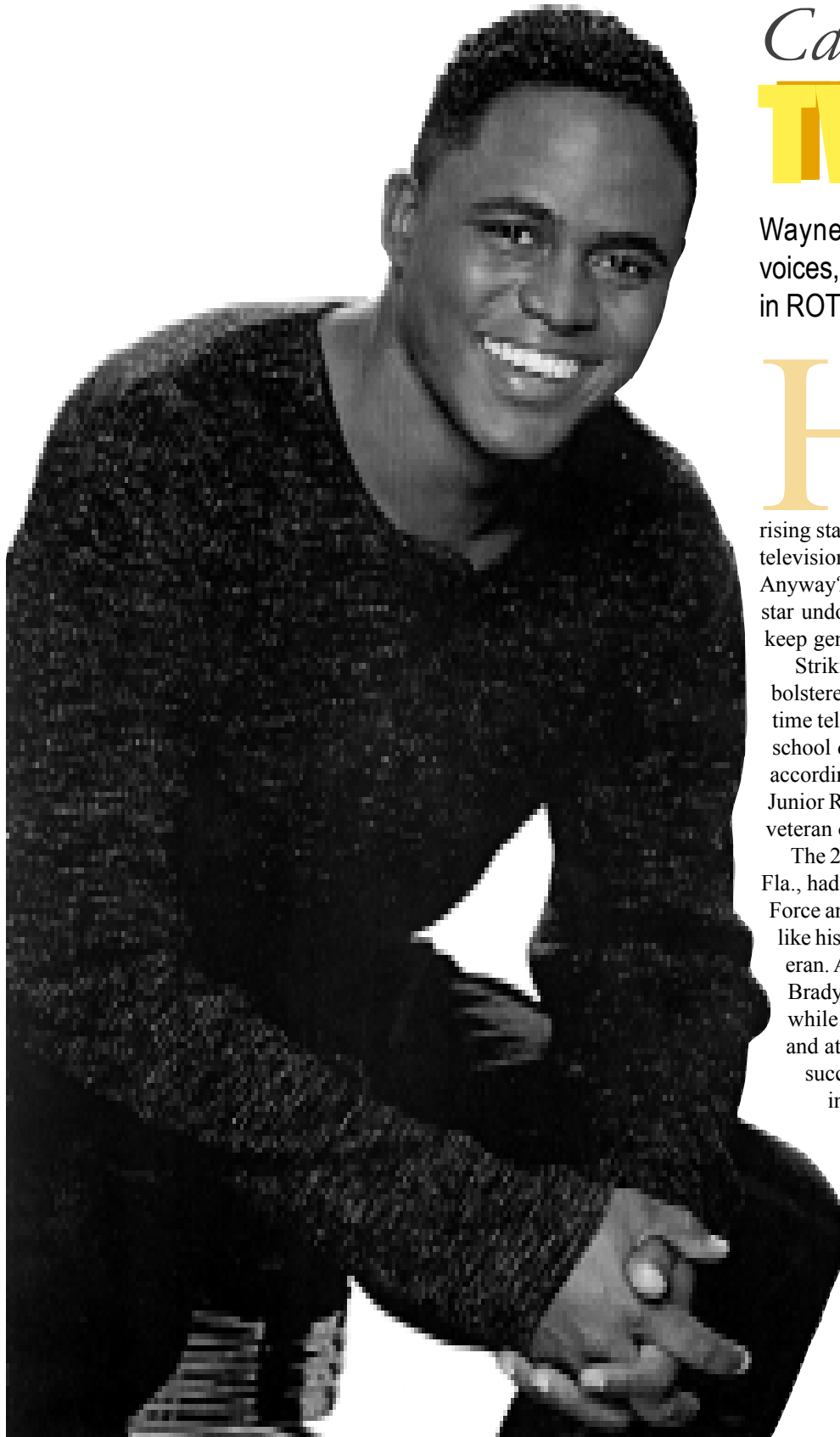
of assumptions, the weight of evidence for and against, and to make the best decision possible given the circumstances.

As a future commander, begin exercising your critical thinking skills now and preparing for the challenges of command. Perhaps more importantly, force the hand of your classmates. Part of your job as commander will be to foster the critical thinking skills of your subordinates.

Remember, the smartest weapon we have in the Air Force arsenal is you.

Dr. Abigail Gray-Briggs is the Chairman of the Department of Research at Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. Her research includes critical thinking and effective communication. Lt. Col. James Briggs is the Director of Academic Instructor School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

**By Dr. Abigail Gray-Briggs
and Lt. Col. James Briggs**



Cadet turned **TV star**

Wayne Brady, man of many voices, credits lessons learned in ROTC to a successful life.

Hilarious, outrageous, ingenious — these are just a few of the terms that could be used to describe rising star Wayne Brady in the ABC television show “Who’s Line is it Anyway?” The current improv superstar undoubtedly has enough talent to keep generations laughing.

Striking while the iron is hot has bolstered Brady’s career into prime-time television far above his high school days where he got his start, according to the former Air Force Junior ROTC cadet and eleven-year veteran of the entertainment industry.

The 27-year-old native of Orlando, Fla., had thoughts of joining the Air Force and pursuing a military career like his father, a 24-year Army veteran. As a cadet in Junior ROTC, Brady took an active part in his unit while competing on the Saber team and attributes some of his current success to the lessons he learned in Junior ROTC. “For the first time in my life I felt like I was a part of something special. It made me feel like I was actually good at this,” said Brady.

Having plans of pursuing a military engineering career, Brady was approached by a fellow Junior ROTC friend and asked to

participate in their high school's drama production. "I was really hesitant at first because I admired the actors, but the public speaking thing really wasn't for me," said Brady. After his moment in the spotlight, Brady instantly fell in love with acting.

Although he opted to trade in his uniform for the bright lights of the stage, Brady values his Junior ROTC days. "Even though I didn't join the military, wearing my dress blues and walking down the hallway gave me a sense of pride," said Brady. "You feel taller, and there's a real sense of camaraderie."

Brady advises cadets to make the most of their time in the ROTC program. "I really think ROTC is such a character-building experience," he said. "Some people don't enjoy following orders, but I think that's a part of the structure."

Brady is definitely on the fast track to stardom. But what's next for the man of many voices? "There are always other things I want to do. I credit ROTC for making me an ambitious person. I learned how to set goals, and I pretty much stick to those."

Brady describes himself as "blessed, multifaceted and persistent." As his entertainment career continues to blossom, he still appreciates his military experience. "It's almost like our society is built on mediocrity," said Brady. "The military teaches you to rise above that and demands the best of you. These are things I brought with me when I made the decision to act...I made the decision to be the best I could be."

By Ivory Patton
Air University Public Affairs



Wayne Brady with the Acme Comedy Theater group. (Courtesy image)

Fast Brady Facts

Television

- Current reoccurring role on "Whose Line is it Anyway?"
- Appeared on NBC's "Home Court."
- Guest starring roles on the critically acclaimed "I'll Fly Away" and the popular CBS's series "In the Heat of the Night" alongside Carroll O'Connor.
- Seen in VH1's short-lived series "Vinyl Justice" with Barry Sobel and on the syndicated comedy sketch show "Kwik Witz."
- Hosted the PBS/BET co-production of "Safe Night," an entertainment special with an antiviolence message targeted toward at-risk youth.
- Hosted this year's "Count-down to the American Music Awards" special.
- Organized and hosted his own music and comedy benefit in Los Angeles for the families of the victims of the Littleton, Colo. school shootings.

Theater

- Performed in "Blade to the Heat" at the Mark Taper Forum and Central Florida Theater productions including "Chorus Line," "Fences," "A Raisin in the Sun" and "Jesus Christ Superstar."
- Weekly performance with improvisational group "Houseful of Honkeys" at Acme Comedy Theater.
- Founding member of Sak Theater Comedy Lab and participating member of Theater Sportz (an improvisational workshop).

Future Plans

- Will star in the musical television-film, "Gepetto," which will be seen later this year on "The Wonderful World of Disney."
- Planning to launch a recording career.
- Currently writing a one-man show.

Keeping it in the *family*

Enterprise, Ala., honors a bug. In Enterprise, the Mexican boll weevil is remembered as a protagonist — a bad guy in a drama. But this drama wasn't make-believe, and the boll weevil wasn't acting.

According to Enterprise historical documentation, the boll weevil — a tiny beetle — destroyed nearly 60 percent of the town's cotton crop in 1915. Farmers faced bankruptcy; the area's economy was at stake. To counter the agricultural past, farmers turned to peanuts and other crops.

Peanuts flourished. The people of Enterprise won; the boll weevil lost. In 1919, the town dedicated a statue honoring the insidious insect as a symbol of humanity's willingness and ability to adjust to adversity. The statue stands today in the center of the downtown district.

Fast forward to the 1960s, which many people remember

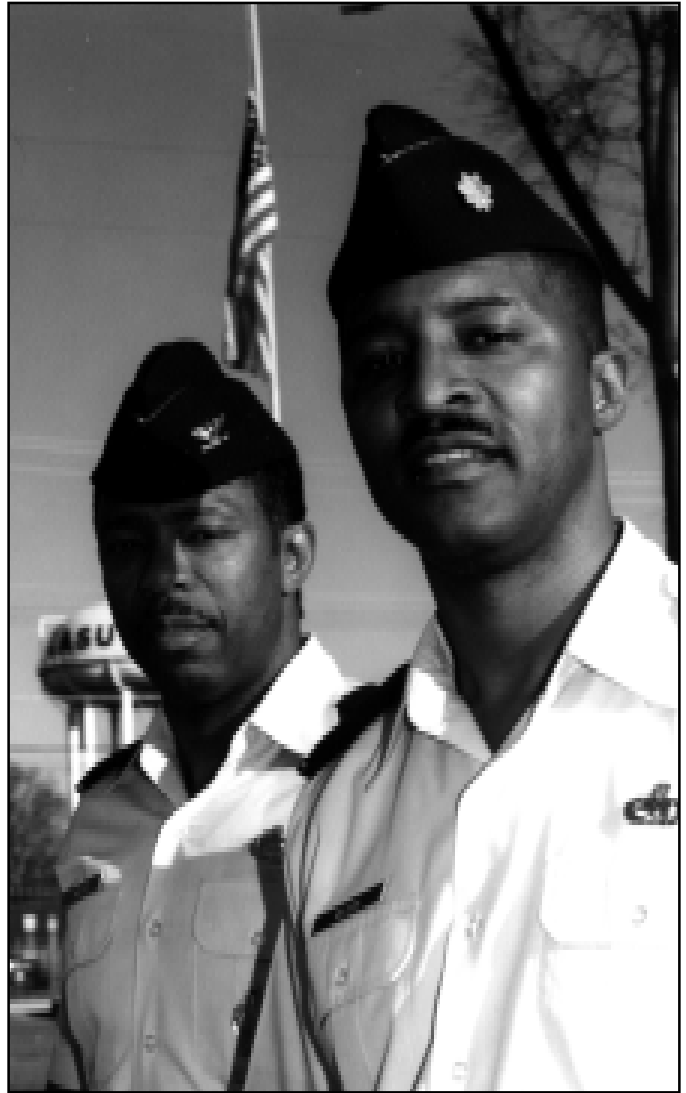


Photo by 1st Lt. Roger Burdette

From left to right, Col. Joe "Snake" Wilson, 42nd Logistics Group commander at Maxwell AFB, Ala., and his younger brother Lt. Col. James T. Wilson Jr., former Det. 19 commander at Alabama State University credit their successful careers on a strong family background.

as a turbulent decade. Internationally, thousands of Americans died in a country many of them had not previously heard: Vietnam. Nationally, assassins silenced President John F. Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. In Selma, Ala., northwest of Enterprise, state troopers used tear gas and batons to attack civil rights activists attempting a protest march to Montgomery. The day was dubbed "Bloody Sunday."

And in Enterprise — where a statue hails humanity's victory over adversity — a black family struggled against adversity of its own.

The 1960s was an “anything-goes era,” according to 41-year-old Lt. Col. James T. Wilson, former Det. 19 commander at Alabama State University. But in the Wilson’s Enterprise home, “anything” decidedly did not go. Wilson’s parents, Lessie and James Wilson Sr., saw to that. “Dad was a strong disciplinarian, especially on the boys, and I’m glad he was because there were so many opportunities to find trouble,” the lieutenant colonel said.

Wilson described his father as a hard-working, street-smart man who had a head for numbers and a heart for religion. On Sunday afternoons after attending services at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson held family discussions with their six children. “We would eat at home and then sit in the living room to talk about things like education, responsibility and family ties,” the junior James Wilson reminisced. “We knew where we were going when we grew up. It was never ‘if’ we were going to college; it was ‘when.’”

Now grown, all six of those children have college degrees, five have master’s degrees. Four are senior Air Force officers.

The three Wilson brothers who became military officers completed Air Force ROTC while attending Alabama State University in Montgomery. The sister who became a military officer completed Air Force ROTC while attending Troy State University in Troy, Ala.

According to James Wilson, his family’s success can be attributed to his father’s influence. “I think about him sometimes, and I’m amazed. The man had no high school education — the last grade he completed was the 6th grade — but he was the smartest man I have ever known.”

Some might characterize the Wilson family as an “American success story” — a family triumphing over daunting, negative odds. After all, the parents

had limited formal education, yet sent six children to college. Further, they were a black family facing a racially divided Deep South. For the Wilson family, racial discrimination was not just a story on the evening news; it was a reality. For example, James Wilson’s older brother, Col. Joe “Snake” Wilson, 42nd Logistics Group commander at Maxwell AFB, Ala., remembered catching pneumonia as a child. At the local hospital, “There were a lot of nice beds, but I had to go to the basement. And that gave me my first inclination that things were not equal.

“But I take negatives and turn them into positives. I refuse to make color a barrier. When I deal with people, I see people, and I refuse to let myself get into the color thing. Once you do, there are problems; you limit yourself,” Snake Wilson said.

“One of the things dad taught us to do was ‘Do unto others as you would like them to do unto you.’ I felt that, yes, I’m black, but I was not going to let that be a hindrance. I always said that I would succeed. And I think that is the point that Mom and Dad were trying to make. Once you get an education, no one can take that from you — I don’t care what color you are,” Snake Wilson said.

Education, though, is only a part of the equation for the family’s success, according to Snake Wilson. One’s attitude and willingness to work hard are also vital.

“It opens doors for you and once that door opens, you’ve got to get in there. It’s up to you,” he said.

Snake Wilson recalled that although his family did experience racial discrimination at the hand of some whites, others helped his family, albeit secretly. “We didn’t get anything, overtly, but behind the scenes, covertly, we got a lot of help,” he said.

In fact, one white man, recognizing the elder James Wilson’s character, intelligence and work ethic — despite

his lack of formal education — helped Mr. Wilson get a job at nearby Fort Rucker, an Army installation where he worked his way up to a position as a helicopter mechanic.

“When he wound up becoming an aircraft mechanic, that told a lot about that guy,” Snake Wilson said. “That told me he was able to put forth that drive and effort. You see a lot of that in his kids, too. As the oldest sibling, I am proud to see my brothers and sisters come up the ladder. We accomplish things not as individuals, but as a family.”

And that, agreed the younger James Wilson, is the secret to the Wilson family’s success. “Belonging to a caring family, believing in family, and putting it together with church and hard work — that’s the secret,” he said.

“When you’ve got family,” said the younger James Wilson, “you’ve got it all.”

**By 1st Lt. Roger Burdette
Aerospace Basic Course
Maxwell AFB, Ala.**

**“We knew
where we
were going
when we
grew up. It
was never
‘if’ we were
going to
college; it
was when.”**

**Lt. Col. James T. Wilson,
former Det. 19 commander
Alabama State University**



Cadet Jason Roberts, Det. 370, University of Massachusetts, forms part of the Honor Guard for the distinguished alumni awards ceremony in the great hall of the State House

Det. 370 University of Massachusetts- Amherst

When Massachusetts Governor Paul Cellucci declared April 7 as "ROTC Appreciation Day," he opened the doors for the detachment to welcome approximately 270 Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corp senior and junior cadets and their instructors, to celebrate ROTC and military service in the state. Distinguished visitors from around the services and the state participated in the day's events. Guests included Lt. Gen. John B. Hall, commander of U.S. Forces in Japan; retired Lt. Gen. Richard M. Scofield; Maj. Gen. Raymond A. Vezina, adjutant general of the Massachusetts National Guard; Brig. Gen. Edward R. Ellis, commander of Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools; Brig.

Gen. James P. Czekanski, director of operations, Air Force Reserve Command; Brig. Gen. Richard S. Colt, 94th Regional Support Command deputy commanding general; and Brig. Gen. Ted M. McFarland, Electronic Systems Center vice commander.

The festivities commenced with a wreath-laying ceremony and a fly-by of A-10 aircraft. Following the ceremony, an open forum addressed "Military Leadership in the 21st Century," which included a question-and-answer session and presentation by panelists Hall, Scofield, Vezina and Ellis.

Other detachments interested in holding their own ROTC appreciation day may benefit from these web sites: [http://www.umass.edu/afrotc/History/ROTC-](http://www.umass.edu/afrotc/History/ROTC-Day.htm)

[Day.htm](http://www.umass.edu/afrotc/History/ROTC-Day.htm) and <http://www.umass.edu/afrotc/History/IMAGES.htm>.

Det. 720 Pennsylvania State University

On a snowy Saturday in March, 53 people crowded into a tiny local airport terminal in Pennsylvania and eagerly listened for news on the arrival of their plane.

Although it sounds like a typical day at an airport, it is actually how 51 cadets and two cadre members of Penn State University's Detachment 720 felt while waiting to catch an Air National Guard C-130 flight to Eglin, AFB, Fla., for a base visit over their spring break.

A snowstorm delayed the plane for 24 hours, and dreams of Florida were put on hold for an extra day. The delay made

the arrival at Eglin AFB worth the ordeal, especially for two cadets who witnessed the landing from the flight deck of the aircraft.

After the cadets and cadre settled in, they began four days of base tours on Eglin, Tyndall, and Hurlburt AFBs. Cadets experienced an F-15 gun live-fire display, a tour of Eglin's climactic laboratory, a ride on the drone recovery boats at Tyndall AFB, running the Theater Air Control Party obstacle course at Hurlburt Field and an M-9 handgun simulator. Two cadets also climbed aboard F-16 Falcons headed out for a dogfight training mission.

Det. 115 University of Connecticut

The detachment hosted its Annual Awards Ceremony May 1 to honor cadets from the Air Force and Army ROTC programs at the University of Connecticut. Donors from more than 50 organizations contributed more than \$4,500 in scholarships and awards.

Maj. Gen. Everett G. Odgers, director, budget operations and personnel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, presided over the university's joint commissioning ceremony May 14. Det. 115 held its annual Cadet Orientation Program from Aug. 26-27, inviting parents and new cadets alike to the Connecticut Air and Space Museum, providing an up-close look at an A-10 at Bradley Air National Guard Base and participating in a low-ropes course.

The event was followed up by a visit to Barnes Air National Guard Base Aug. 28 to see the Thunderbirds Air Show.

Det. 620 Bowling Green State University

Cadets recently traveled to Langley Air Force Base, Va., to tour the base. They received a briefing on intelligence and toured the Naval Station at Norfolk and Colonial Williamsburg.

Cadets saw submarines, cruisers, destroyers, aircraft carriers and steam pipes. From Naval Station Norfolk they

continued their trip to the Virginia Air and Space Museum.

The second and final day in Virginia brought a briefing at Air Combat Command headquarters complete with a video showcasing fast jets and explosions. Cadets then toured maintenance and fuels areas to gain a real appreciation for all the work that goes into each F-15. Soon thereafter it was back to Norfolk for a tour of the Los Angeles Class Fast Attack Submarine, *USS Boise*.

Det. 730 University of Pittsburgh

On April 14, Cadets Adam Pugh and John Speer visited Staff Sgt. Ed Priest of the 258th Air Traffic Control Squadron at the Pennsylvania Air National Guard to learn more about the combat controller career field.

Priest provided the cadets with a complete rundown of his career field, to include personal video of his squadron's free-fall training jumps. According to the cadets, the rigorous training and real-life experiences of combat controllers are amazing and should be shared because "high school kids would eat that stuff up," said Pugh.

Det. 330 University of Maryland

Capt. Clara Edwina Reid stepped down as the commandant of cadets at Det. 330 after three years with the detachment. She relinquished the cadets to Maj. Lee Shick, who supported last year's seniors in preparing for active duty.

Det. 730 University of Pittsburgh

Eight cadets served as drill competition judges March 6 for an Air Force Junior ROTC-sponsored drill competition at North Allegheny High School in Pittsburgh, Penn.

The all-day event involved 140 high school cadets, representing five junior units from Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

For the seventh consecutive year, cadets rated individual competitions,

flight competitions and color guard performances. Their efforts helped the Air Force Junior ROTC units in their competition and provided cadets an opportunity to hone their drill and ceremony skills before attending field training this summer.

Det. 415 University of Minnesota

The U.S. Air Force Drill Team performed for cadets, cadre and the public on the University of Minnesota campus February 10. After their performance, the drill team showed members of Det. 415 Eagles Rifle Drill Team drill moves.

Det. 128 University of Delaware

The Annual Air Force Association Galaxy Chapter 277 Awards Program was held recently at the Landings Consolidated Club, Dover Air Force Base, Del. Cadet S. Benjamin Gallagher received the Outstanding Professional Officer Course Award and Cadet Melody Rudd was presented with the Outstanding General Military Course Award.

Det. 380 Michigan State University

Junior cadets from six high schools attended Junior ROTC day at Michigan State University April 17. The day provided high school students with an opportunity to sharpen skills in areas such as teamwork, preparing and training for competition, good sportsmanship, citi-

zenship, military conduct and basic drill and ceremonies as well as providing university campus orientation.

Individual drill evaluation, innovative drill, elimination drill down, pep rally, volleyball and formal inspection were all-important events for the day.

"This day was the result of months of planning," said Cadet Jason Kattman, Silver Eagles Drill Team commander. "This day proved to be an outstanding opportunity for the high schools to visit Michigan State University Air Force ROTC and become familiar with other JROTC programs." The executive staff of Det. 380's drill team include Cadets Jason Kattman, Elizabeth Gentner, Nicole Armstrong, Melissa Johnson, Michael Gray, Al Wood and Jason Gabriel.

Det. 730 University of Pittsburgh

Cadet Carmen Carreras and her partner Richard Bohman took the help of the 911th Airlift Wing to expand their learning beyond the classroom on March 17 when they worked with a junior-level mechanical engineering class at Carnegie Mellon University.

The "Dynamic Systems and Control" project involved analyzing the front nose gear of a C-130 transport to describe how the overall system works, how the landing gear responds to landing force and a model and mathematical analysis of the system.



Det. 128, University of Delaware, cadets perform flutter kicks during their morning physical training session.



Det. 910, University of Washington, team "Rudy Wranglers" is still smiling after a three hour Ridge to River Relay in Wenatchee, Wash.

Det. 195 Illinois Institute of Technology

The bright lights and big city of Chicago set the stage for a national conclave to remember for more than 1,400 Arnold Air Society cadets and Silver Wings members from around the country.

CHICON '99 provided an opportunity for participants to expand their knowledge about the Air Force and to conduct business sessions in a professional environment.

Top leaders from the Air Force also attended CHICON '99 to interact with cadets. "The kind of leaders that have come from Air Force ROTC have been the ones who have played a very significant role in the well being of the Air Force," said Gen. Lloyd Newton, Air Education and Training Command commander.

During the military ball, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan was recognized as the honorary national commander of Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings.

Det. 270 Kansas State University

The detachment dedicated a classroom in the military science building on April 29 to Gen. Richard B. Myers, a

Kansas State University alumnus from the class of 1965 who was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program at K-State.

Currently Myers commands all U.S. space assets as the commander of Air Force Space Command, Commander-in-Chief of North American Aerospace Defense Command; and Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Space Command.

During the dedication ceremony, the general spoke to cadets on military and leadership issues. A plaque signifying the day of dedication as well as Myers commitment to the Air Force reads "leader, mentor and role model."

Det 380 Michigan State University

Junior cadets from six high schools attended Junior ROTC day hosted by the detachment's Silver Eagle Drill Team and its executive staff at Michigan State University April 17.

The day was established to provide high school students with an opportunity to sharpen skills in areas such as teamwork, training for competition, good sportsmanship, citizenship, military conduct and basic drill.

Greater Detroit area high schools that attended included Highland Park, Benjamin O. Davis, Anchor Bay, Churchill

and Henry Ford.

Junior ROTC cadets said they were very impressed with the day's events and look forward to returning to Michigan State University next year. "This day was the result of months of planning," said Cadet Jason Kattman, Silver Eagles Drill Team commander. "Many people volunteered their own time and efforts to ensure the day was a huge success. This day proved to be an outstanding opportunity for the high schools to visit Michigan State University, Air Force ROTC and become familiar with other JROTC programs."

Det 390 University of Michigan

Cadets hosted an event honoring Vietnam veterans March 25 that featured a musical performance by veteran Michael Martin and shared war experiences by six other veterans in the hope that the audience might understand the war on a personal level.

Of the veterans who spoke, three served in the Army, one worked as a Seabee, one was a Marine and another was an airman who worked in munitions. Each had their own experiences in the heat, some in the jungle and some on an airstrip, but there was one experience they all shared -- the trust and camaraderie within their unit.

The panel fielded questions on such topics as the role of officers in their daily lives and the determination of the Vietnamese people. They shared opinions on the uncertainty of the environment and their experience when they returned to America.

Mardi Gras or bust

University of Michigan Det. 390 Honor Guard participated in the Naval ROTC Invitational Drill Meet at Tulane University in New Orleans. Tri-Service drill teams from ROTC units around the country participated in various events including inspection, trick drill and color guard competitions.

Although the detachment did not march away with a trophy, each cadet



Photo by Cadet Theresa Dorsey

Det. 410, University of Saint Thomas, cadets shake hands with a Vietnam veteran after leading a parade to the Minnesota Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

boasted handfuls of beads and even a little sun when they returned.

Celebrating Armed Forces Day

The 43rd Annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon celebration held at Battle Creek, Mich., started with a tribute to ROTC in a proclamation read by Mayor Ted Dearing. The Government Affairs Committee of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored the luncheon.

Maj. Gen. David F. Bice, Marine Corps Staff director, was the guest speaker. At the ceremony, Air Force ROTC Cadets Andrew J. Hoisington from Det. 390, University of Michigan, and David P. Sims from Det. 380, Michigan State University, were awarded Omar N. Bradley ROTC Leadership Awards.

Det. 400 Michigan Technological University

Cadets accumulated 30 hours of flight time as they learned the basics of pre-flighting aircraft, straight and level flight,

standard rate turns and cross-country planning when they flew with the Civil Air Patrol in their flight orientation program. Navy T-34 and L-39 Albatross aircraft, owned by CAP pilots, were at the airport and the cadets were given the opportunity to look over the planes and ask the pilots questions.

In what is starting to become a yearly tradition at Det. 400, cadets traveled to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to tour base sites such as a centrifuge, materials lab, altitude chamber, and the National Air Intelligence Center. Some cadets even glimpsed the new F-22 Raptor. Cadets also met and breakfasted with Brig. Gen. Todd Stewart.

Det. 410 University of Saint Thomas

Several cadets participated in ceremonies April 10 honoring Maj. John Bailey, whose remains were recently identified from the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and returned to his native state of Minnesota. Cadets Bethany Lohmann, Greg Voth, Jasen Keske and John Roehl

formed a color guard team that led a procession from the Minnesota State capitol to the Minnesota Vietnam Veterans Memorial in St. Paul. There, Bailey's POW/MIA flag was retired in a solemn ceremony. Cadets Marci Eggleston and Renee Leroux also participated in the event. Bailey was on a combat mission on May 10, 1966, when his plane crashed with its canopy intact. His remains were recovered from the crash site during a joint U.S.-Vietnam excavation in August 1995. They were identified earlier this year in Hawaii. Currently, 2,069 Americans are still unaccounted for; 39 are from Minnesota.

Det. 415 University of Minnesota

Twelve General Lauris Norstad Squadron members attended the Arnold Air Society National Conclave in Chicago, during Easter weekend. The NATCON conclave focuses on policy changes, guidance and joint decisions with its counterpart Silver Wings. The Norstad delegates attended the legislative meetings and shared their opinions regarding a Joint National Project, national headquarters and the location for NATCON 2000. For its extensive work on the November 1998 POW/MIA vigil, Norstad received the Col. George Robert Hall Freedom Cup Award for the most outstanding POW/MIA vigil in the nation.



Members of Det 685's Silver Talons Drill Team retire the colors

Additionally, the squadron received the Outstanding Public Affairs Program Award for their work in publicizing the detachment throughout the year. Along with the national awards, the squadron also took back two area awards including the Squadron of the Month for November 1998, and Cadet Sara Loyd received the award for Outstanding Public Affairs Officer in Area VII.

Rifle Drill Team places third

The Eagles Precision Rifle Drill Team practiced as many as five days a week to prepare for competition. On April 24, the team competed in a drill competition in Illinois against teams from the University of Illinois, Purdue University and the U.S. Air Force Academy, among others.

Det. 415 brought home a third place trophy for their exhibition routine. Eagles commander Rick Camel won first place in the drill down. Team members were Cadets Daniel Arbach, Rick Camel, Brian Chapeau, Mark Dmytryszyn, Tim Fair, Shannon Farrell, Corey Kellett, Sara Loyd, Sammy Miller, Christian Paskvan and Alexis Underwood.

Det. 685 Oregon State University

Cadre and cadets took advantage of a break in Oregon's wet early spring weather to participate in the detachment's semiannual Field Day. The event, held at Avery Park near the Oregon State University campus, gave cadets the chance to spend time with other members of the wing in a relaxed environment.

While some cadets played softball, touch football proved to be the main event. The team made up of AS 400s and 100s took an early lead over the 300s and 200s. Maj. Danny P. Allen, the commandant of cadets, joined the sophomore-junior team and kept them in the game, but the freshmen and seniors held on for the win.

"It's nice to get together and build esprit de corps. Field Day's informal atmosphere really helped do this," said Cadet Stephanie Root.



Det. 910, University of Washington, female cadet team pose after competing against Army and Navy ROTC cadets in a Joint physical training competition.

Cadet Benjamin Drongesan, the Morale, Welfare and Recreation officer, organized the event and presided over the cookout that wrapped up the day's activities.

Joint service review parade

Hundreds of spectators lined the Memorial Union quad to observe the annual Joint Service Review April 30. Under clear skies, the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps ROTC units of Oregon State University marched onto the field to the sounds of military marching music provided by a joint service band. After the units took their places on the ready line, the color guard presented the colors while the national anthem played in the background. "JSR gave the campus the rare opportunity to see all the ROTC units at Oregon State working together as a team," Cadet Scott Lawson said.

At the command "pass in review," the combined ROTC units of OSU marched before the reviewing stand, remaining locked in step until they left the quad. Within minutes, the grassy square was again filled with students reading, tossing a flying disc or simply enjoying the sun. "The success of the event made all the early morning practices worthwhile," added Cadet Curt Schumacher, who coordinated the event.

Det. 910 University of Washington

Career Day for cadets exposed the corps to the spectrum of Air Force career prospects with presentations from officers in 12 different fields. Guests from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., and Air Force Institute of Technology officers at the university presented information on jobs such as acquisitions, intelligence, personnel and the judge advocate general corps.

Chuck Killberg, former Air Force pilot and current Boeing F-22 test pilot, spoke to pilot hopefuls and showed a video of him flying the F-22. He also shared his view of what the next generation of fighter pilots will experience in the Air Force's newest aircraft.

Twenty cadets visited Fairchild AFB, Wash., during spring break when they flew on air refueling missions, toured U.S. Air Force Survival School and fired weapons with security forces.

Three six-person teams cross-country and downhill skied, ran, biked and canoed their way from the top of Mission Ridge to the Wenatchee River to compete in the five-event Ridge to River race. Hard Corps, the six-man team of Cadets Ryan Freeman, Steven Arnott, Byrone Greene, Mac Hoglund and John Funk captured the military division title with a first-place finish.

**Det. 5
Auburn University**

In an exercise akin to the real world of research, development and acquisitions, Maj. David Riel, commandant of cadets, challenged the corps to build a model airplane from simple materials while placing restrictions on its construction.

Cadets formed small groups and were armed with cardboard, duct tape, sheet plastic, wooden strips, razor blades, wood saws and paint. In 45 minutes, each group designed and constructed a portion of the aircraft, ranging from its wings, forward fuselage including flight deck, mid fuselage with landing gear and rear fuselage or tail section. The group could only communicate with one or two other groups through a designated communicator. When time expired, the individual groups met and were given an additional 15 minutes to assemble their respective parts into an aircraft model.

"This project had all the ingredients for testing the cadets' skills of communication, dynamic followership, initiative, problem-solving and leadership in a small group setting," said Riel, "but I'm just glad I didn't have to fly in it."

**Det. 295
University of Louisville**

The detachment participated in three morale-building activities that helped earn money for the annual awards breakfast and dining out. Cadet Scott Marcum

organized and recruited participants for the detachment. Cadets parked cars during the University of Louisville Founders' Day Gala, and all cars were returned in the same condition they were received. By participating in a chicken taste test, cadets received a free meal and earned \$8 apiece for the cadet wing fund. Finally the cadets held a donation-only car wash.

The fund-raising efforts were so successful the cadets were able to attend Det. 295's annual awards breakfast free of charge. Most cadets were also able to attend the Louisville Armed Forces Committee dinner at no charge.

Thunder without lightning

Cadets and cadre answered questions and recruited for ROTC at the Kentucky Air National Guard's "Thunder Over Louisville." Each year the city kicks off its Kentucky Derby festivities by holding an air show and one of the largest fireworks displays in the country.

Members of the Arnold Air Society Tommy Mantell Squadron helped lead tours through Louisville's Kosair Children's Hospital for their semester



Det. 5, Auburn University, cadets work together for a group leadership project.

service project as part of "Children's Week" at the hospital. The "Big Brother" and "Big Sister" cadet tour guides discussed poisons, fire and seatbelt safety and the dangers of smoking with elementary-aged students.

Cadets helped the cadre with recruiting and scholarship activities by returning to their high school alma maters and speaking to former classmates and teachers about Air Force ROTC.

**Det. 775
University of South Carolina**

Several cadets traveled to Savannah, Ga., March 1-8 to visit the Air Force Museum and attend the Gen. Jimmy Stewart Award ceremony, which provided a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet some of the highest-ranking officers in the Air Force.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan was both the guest speaker and recipient of the Gen. Jimmy Stewart Award. After Ryan received the award, he spoke on current Air Force issues around the world.



Members of the Arnold Air Society National Headquarters visit Det. 165, Georgia Tech, to discuss AAS issues.

Det. 320 Tulane University

Cadets spent a Saturday afternoon playing with children who live at a public housing development during a community-wide "block party." They taught 8- to 12-year-old children how to play Ultimate Frisbee and run relay races. According to cadets, seeing the kids smile, hearing their laughter and getting big hugs from them when it was time to leave made it all worthwhile.

Det. 670 Oklahoma State

Despite 10 inches of fresh snow cadets from Det. 670 and Det. 675 traveled to Colorado Springs, Colo., March 15 by charter bus for the detachments' first joint spring break trip.

Personnel of the 21st Space Wing at Peterson Air Force Base briefed the cadets on the wing's mission and duties before a tour of North American Aerospace Defense Command's Cheyenne Mountain. The cadets were among the last to see the inside of the facility; the mountain complex was closed to tours two weeks later.

The building is an engineer's playground, showcasing the capabilities of past and present technological innovations. The cadets later toured the Air



Det. 675, University of Oklahoma, celebrates their 50th year of commissioning ceremonies.

Force Academy and dined with cadets at the Academy Prep School Dining Hall.

The cadets ventured behind the multiple fences and locked doors of Shriever AFB's space complex to see where satellites are controlled from earth, sometimes with the help of 1970s-era computer technology operated by recent alumni of both detachments. A recent Det. 675 graduate described his security force unit's mission and demonstrated its weaponry, night vision goggles and other equipment. A C-130 of the Air Force Reserve on the Peterson AFB

flightline was the final stop for the cadets in Colorado.

Det. 675 University of Oklahoma

The detachment celebrated their 50th year of commissioning ceremonies with a special "Golden Commissioning" May 8. More than 200 family members, friends, alumni and former cadre members attended the ceremony. Brig. Gen. Robert F. Behler, University of Oklahoma Air Force ROTC class of 1972, was the guest speaker and presiding officer.

This special event included alumni from the first class of graduates as well as representatives of every decade of commissioning programs at OU. Retired Lt. Col. Bill Russell, who received his commission in May 1950 and returned as an instructor during the mid-1950s, represented the first class.

Joining him as decade representatives were retired Maj. Gen. Jerry D. Holmes, class of 1958; Marion Bauman, class of 1963; Maj. Donald D. Self, class of 1979; Maj. William B. Crawford, class of 1983; and 2nd Lt. Jennifer B. Meadows, class of 1998. Nearly 30 other alumni joined the detachment's spring 1999 commissioning ceremony. Many brought their yearbooks to share memories with former classmates and newly commissioned second lieutenants.



Cadets and cadre from Det. 320, Tulane University, play with local children during a community-wide block party.

On the Front Lines



Capt. Valerie Johnston
Det. 355
Boston University

Duty title: Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies and Commandant of Cadets

Family status: Single, wedding day set for Oct. 10.

What I like most about my job: Giving back to an organization that taught me so much as a cadet. Seeing cadets grow and mature. Being close to family.

What I would do to make ROTC better: Establish a more defined system to cross-feed information between detachments so we can learn from each other and improve performance.

Hobbies: Camping and cooking

Favorite movie: "While You Were sleeping"

Favorite music: Oldies, country, eighties pop.

Staff Sgt. Jeff Cranford
Det. 5
Auburn University

Duty title: NCOIC of Personnel

Family status: Married with two children

What I like most about my job: The interaction with cadets and watching them grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

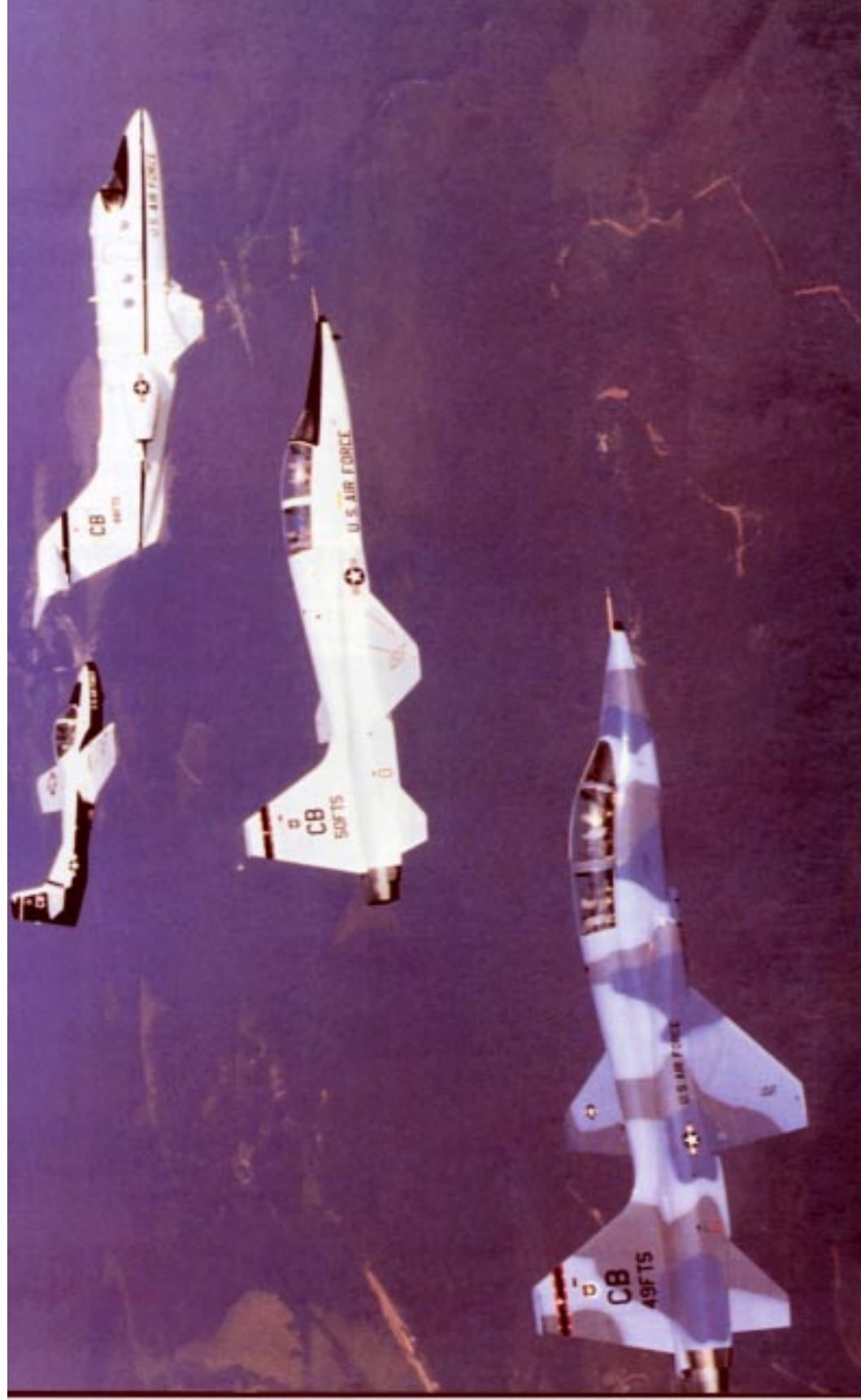
Hobbies: Fishing, sports and writing songs

Favorite movie: "Star Wars"

Favorite TV show: "The Civil War Journal," on the History channel.

Favorite music/artist: Country, George Strait.





Strive!

U.S. Air Force
America's Aerospace Force
AT-38B, T-38A Talon, T-1A Jayhawk, T-37 Tweet